

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (cancelled):

Claim 12 (cancelled):

Claim 13 (cancelled):

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method according to Claim ~~[[12]]~~ 24, wherein said ΔP_i is triggered only when the value of the direct or indirect measurement of the weight of the container and/or of the liquid is less than or equal to a predetermined fraction F of the initial weight of the container and/or of the liquid contained in the container.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 14, wherein said predetermined fraction F is less than or optionally equal to about 10% of the initial weight of the container and/or of the liquid initially contained in the container.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method according to Claim ~~[[12]]~~ 24, wherein said time interval $\Delta t_i = t_{i+1} - t_i$ ranges from two successive measurements of the weight of the container and/or of the liquid is predetermined.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 16, wherein said predetermined time interval is about ten seconds.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method according to Claim ~~[[11]]~~ 24, wherein the flow of the liquid is at least partly caused by the pressure exerted by a pressurized gas lying above the surface of the liquid in the container; and wherein said gas is compatible with the liquid.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 18, wherein said gas is essentially inert with respect to the liquid to be propelled.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 18, wherein said liquid is sent to a second container before being sent to its point of use.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 18, wherein said gas is at least one component selected from the group consisting of:

- a) helium;
- b) neon;
- c) xenon;
- d) nitrogen;
- e) argon;
- f) krypton; and
- g) carbon dioxide.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 18, wherein said gas has a pressure from about 10^5 to about 10^6 pascals, or about 1 to about 10 bars.

Claim 23 (currently amended): An apparatus for delivering a liquid chemical product which comprises:

- a) a container;
- b) means for connecting ~~this~~ said container to ~~[[a]]~~ the point of use for said liquid;
- c) means for measuring the amount of said liquid in said container, which includes clock means;
- d) storage means;
- e) means for calculating the difference in the amount of liquid $\Delta P_i = P_i - P_{i+1}$ in the container between times t_i and t_{i+1} ;
- f) means for comparing ΔP_i with a predetermined value F ; and
- g) means for generating a first signal S_1 if $\Delta P_i > F$ or a second signal S_2 if $\Delta P_i \leq F$;

wherein said container contains the chemical liquid to be delivered;

~~wherein said means for connecting this container to a point of use is where the liquid product has to be delivered;~~

wherein said clock means generate, at successive times t_i , t_{i+1} , etc., a signal for triggering a measurement P_i , P_{i+1} , etc. of the amount of said chemical liquid at said times t_i , t_{i+1} , etc.; and

wherein said storage means record the measurements P_i , P_{i+1} , etc. of the amount of said liquid at times t_i , t_{i+1} , etc. respectively.

Claim 24 (new): A method which may be used for measuring and inducing flow in a liquid, said method comprising:

- a) measuring the amount of a liquid in a container, wherein said measuring further comprises measuring a weight, P_i , of said liquid in said container at a time t_i , wherein:
 - 1) said i ranges from 0 to n , this measurement being repeated at time t_{i+1} , then at time t_{i+2} , until time t_n ;
 - 2) n is an integer greater than about 3;
 - 3) the weight change $\Delta P_i = P_i - P_{i+1}$ of said liquid ranges from times t_i and t_{i+1} ; and
 - 4) $\Delta t = t_{i+1} - t_i$ is also measured so as to generate at time t_n a signal, S indicating that the container may be considered empty when ΔP_i is less than a predetermined fraction F of the weight of the container and/or of the liquid initially contained in the latter; and
- b) making said liquid flow from said container to a point of use, said flow induced by a flow means.